

Press release
Paris, 17 November 2014

Launching DARIAH: when the arts and humanities go digital...

For 2006 alone, all the information produced in the world is three million times greater than all the books ever written! Our manuscripts and printed cultural heritage are just a drop in the ocean of big data. How can we keep up to speed? How can we track the relationships between authors and their readers, in an age when every reader can also become an author? Accompanying researchers through these changes is the primary mission of DARIAH, the *Digital Research Infrastructure for the Arts and Humanities*, which brings together 15 countries as Founding Members and launches as an ERIC* on 17 November 2014 in Paris.

A European infrastructure for the digital humanities

DARIAH's vision is to enhance and support digitally-enabled research across the arts and humanities, and to facilitate the provision of services and activities for the digital arts and humanities research community in Europe and beyond.

DARIAH integrates national digital arts and humanities initiatives in Europe and operates a platform to enable trans-national research. It offers a portfolio of services and activities centred around research communities and develops a research infrastructure for sharing and sustaining digital arts and humanities knowledge. By bringing together national activities from our Member countries, DARIAH will be able to offer a broad spectrum of services including training initiatives, such as summer schools and trans-national curricula, a knowledge repository with standards and good practices for digital asset management, and guidance on repository certification. Platforms for data sharing and digital publishing will be offered alongside technical systems for persistent identification, authentication and long-term preservation.

The DARIAH-ERIC was established for 20 years by the European Commission on 15 August 2014 with 15 Founding Members: Austria, Belgium, Croatia, Cyprus, Denmark, France, Germany, Greece, Ireland, Italy, Luxembourg, Malta, The Netherlands, Serbia and Slovenia. France is the host country of the DARIAH-ERIC.

To provide leadership for the day-to-day activities of DARIAH-EU, on 5 September 2014, the General Assembly of the newly established DARIAH-ERIC voted unanimously to appoint Tobias Blanke (King's College London, United Kingdom), Conny Kristel (NIOD Institute for War, Holocaust and Genocide Studies, The Netherlands) and Laurent Romary (Inria, France) as the DARIAH-ERIC Board of Directors.

DARIAH's high-level launch will take place on 17 November 2014 at the Ministère de l'Éducation nationale, de l'Enseignement supérieur et de la Recherche in Paris. The event will bring together researchers from across Europe, as well as representatives from the European Commission and various scientific institutions.

* *European Research Infrastructure Consortium*

Further information

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